

Message Text

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61

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INFO AMCONUL HONG KONG

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TAGS: PFOR, TW, HK, UK

SUBJECT: LOCAL PAPER CRITICIZES HKG

1. LOW CIRCULATION, ENGLISH LANGUAGE CHINA NEWS MARCH 19 CARRIED FOLLOWING EDITORIAL ENTITLED "RELATIONS WITH HONG KONG" REBUTTING RECENT CRITICISM IN HONG KONG PAPER OF THE GROC. QUOTE: ONE OF THE HONG KONG ENGLISH-LANGUAGE NEWSPAPERS HAS PUBLISHED SOME NASTY COMMENTS ABOUT TAIWAN CRIMINAL LAW AND POLICE.

2. "ON THE ONE HAND, WE ARE ACCUSED OF TRYING DRUG TRAFFICKERS ON THE BASIS OF SCANTY EVIDENCE AND ON THE OTHER OF FAILING TO SEND BACK A MURDERER BECAUSE THE HONG KONG AUTHORITIES DID NOT SUBMIT A WARRANT OF ARREST.

3. " MOST OF THIS IS MERELY GOSSIP COLUMN TALK. BUT IT COULD CONTRIBUTE TO FURTHER MISUNDERSTANDING.

4. "FIRST, AS REGARDS THE TRIAL HERE OF CHINESE NATIONALS FOR OFFENSES COMMITTED ELSEWHERE, THAT IS PERFECTLY LEGAL UNDER THE LAW OF THE REPUBLIC OF CHINA.

5. "FURTHERMORE, THOSE WHO CAME HERE -- FLEEING FROM
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THE HONG KONG AUTHORITIES -- KNEW IT. THEY TOOK THEIR

CHANCES AND LOST.

6. "NOR IS THERE NEED TO CRY CROCODILE TEARS ABOUT THESE HANDLERS OF DOPE BEING "INNOCENT UNTIL PROVED GUILTY."

7. "THERE IS NO SUCH PRESUMPTION UNDER OUR LAW, NOR UNDER THE LAW OF MUCH OF THE REST OF THE WORLD.

8. "THOSE BROUGHT UP UNDER THE ENGLISH LAW MAY NOT LIKE IT, BUT CHINESE MISCREANTS ARE GUILTY UNTIL THEY PROVE THEMSELVES INNOCENT. OCCASIONALLY THAT MAY RESULT IN A MISCARRIAGE OF JUSTICE. IN THE BIG SWEEP OF HISTORY, HOWEVER, IT IS FAIRLY EFFECITVE IN PREVENTING THE GUILTY FROM GETTING OFF THE HOOK.

9. "TO THE BEST OF OUR KNOWLEDGE, NO CHINESE FROM HONG KONG OR ELSEWHERE HAS BEEN COVICTED HERE FOR SOMETHING HE DID NOT DO. CRIMINALS WHO WANT THE PRESUMPTIONS OF THE ENGLISH LAW HAD BETTER REMAIN WHERE THE ENGLISH LAW IS APPLIED.

10. "SECOND, THE CLAIM THAT WE ARE INTERESTED SOLELY IN THE PROPAGANDA ASPECTS OF SUCH TRANSACTIONS IS RIDICULOUS.

11. "THERE WILL BE NO"RASH OF UNION JACKS FLUTTERING OVER TAIPEI." WE KNOW IT, THE BRITISH KNOW AND THE CHINESE OF HONG KONG KNOW IT. IN TERMS OF THE STRUGGLE AGAINST THE CHINESE COMMUNISTS, WE ARE FAR MORE INTERESTED IN SEEING THE DISPLAY OF OUR NATIONAL FLAG BY OUR COMPATRIOTS OF THE BRITISH CROWN COLONY.

12. "ADMITTEDLY, COMMUNICATION BETWEEN POLICE (AND OTHER AUTHORITIES) OF THE REPUBLIC OF CHINA AND HONG KONG IS NOT EASY. WHOSE FAULT IS THAT? WE HAD A BRITISH CONSUL HERE FOR A HUNDRED YEARS, AND FOR MORE THAN 20 YEARS OF THE PERIOD IN WHICH THE BRITISH RECOGNIZED THE CHINESE COMMUNISTS. THIS GOVERNMENT DID NOT ASK HIM TO LEAVE. HE WAS WITHDRAWN BY THE BRITISH AS A SOP TO THE COMMUNISTS AND THE PRICE OF GETTING A UNCLASSIFIED

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FULL AMBASSADOR TO PEIPING.

13. "WE COULDN'T CARE LESS WHETHER WE HAVE DIRECT COMMUNICATION WITH HONG KONG. THE COLONY'S POLICE CAN RING US UP ANY TIME; NO "WHITE SUN OVER CRIMSON GROUND" WILL BE ATTACHED TO THE CALL.

14. "TO PUT THE WHOLE THING SIMPLY, THE HONG KONG

GOVERNMENT AND ITS BRITISH MASTERS ARE AFRAID THAT ANY
NOTICE OF US WOULD DISPLEASE THE RED COLOSSUS TO THE NORTH.

15. "IN OUR VIREW, JUSTICE AND ESPECIALLY THE SUPPRESSION
OF THE NARCOTICS TRAFFIC ARE AT STAKE. THIS IS NOT A
SILLY GAME OF "WE DON'T EXIST BECAUSE YOU DON'T TALK TO
US." UNQUOTE.

16. FOR HONG KONG: WE WOULD APPRECIATE ANY SIGNIFICANT
BACKGROUND HONG KONG CAN PROVIDE.
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